



Letter to Applicant English Teacher

Dear Applicant

Thank you for showing interest in this teaching position. Birchwood High School is a fantastic place to work and I have great privilege to lead an inspired team of staff who are dedicated to the education of our 1400 students. It is a school where we get the balance right between academic progress, pastoral support & welfare and curriculum enrichment. This was reflected in our recent Ofsted Inspection (June 2019) where we were judged to be Good with some Outstanding features. We are not a complacent school and we are now working on further improvement to help us become a truly great school. There is an energy and a passion amongst staff to work on marginal gains and continually refine what we do.

We are very proud of our inclusive and non-selective ethos, with some students progressing on to the very best universities in the country whilst other students needing significant support to help them progress. It is a 'comprehensive' mix of keen and enthusiastic students who make the days and weeks fly by.

Staff turnover is relatively low and we have high retention rates. Our NQT programme is excellent and, as a result, the majority of our NQTs stay with us to develop their careers. New staff always tell me how supportive and friendly staff are, helping them settle in quickly and make a flying start. Whilst some staff have positions of seniority, we are a non-hierarchical school, valuing everyone's input and encouraging research and innovation. We are also very conscious of workload and have developed effective policies around lesson planning, marking and quality assurance to ensure that teachers can have a life outside school.

This position has come about to increase capacity within the Faculty. Other than this post, the English and Media Faculty is fully staffed and well led. The English team are enthusiastic, committed and supportive. For more information about the Faculty, please see the English Faculty overview in your candidate pack. The English Curriculum Maps are located on the school website: <https://www.birchwoodonline.co.uk/students/english-faculty/>.

If you have any further questions about the post, please feel free to email the Head of Faculty, zboittier@birchwoodhighschool.org.uk If you would like to make an informal visit, please contact the school on 01279 655936.

To apply, please complete an application form and include this with a covering letter* outlining any relevant experience to date, your values and how you would make a difference to student outcomes. Applications should be sent to Miss Walker, HR Manager at recruitment@birchwoodhigh.org.uk. The closing date is **15th March** and interviews will be held on **18/19th March**.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Chris Ingate
Principal